

APN All-Photonics
Network
for IOWN®

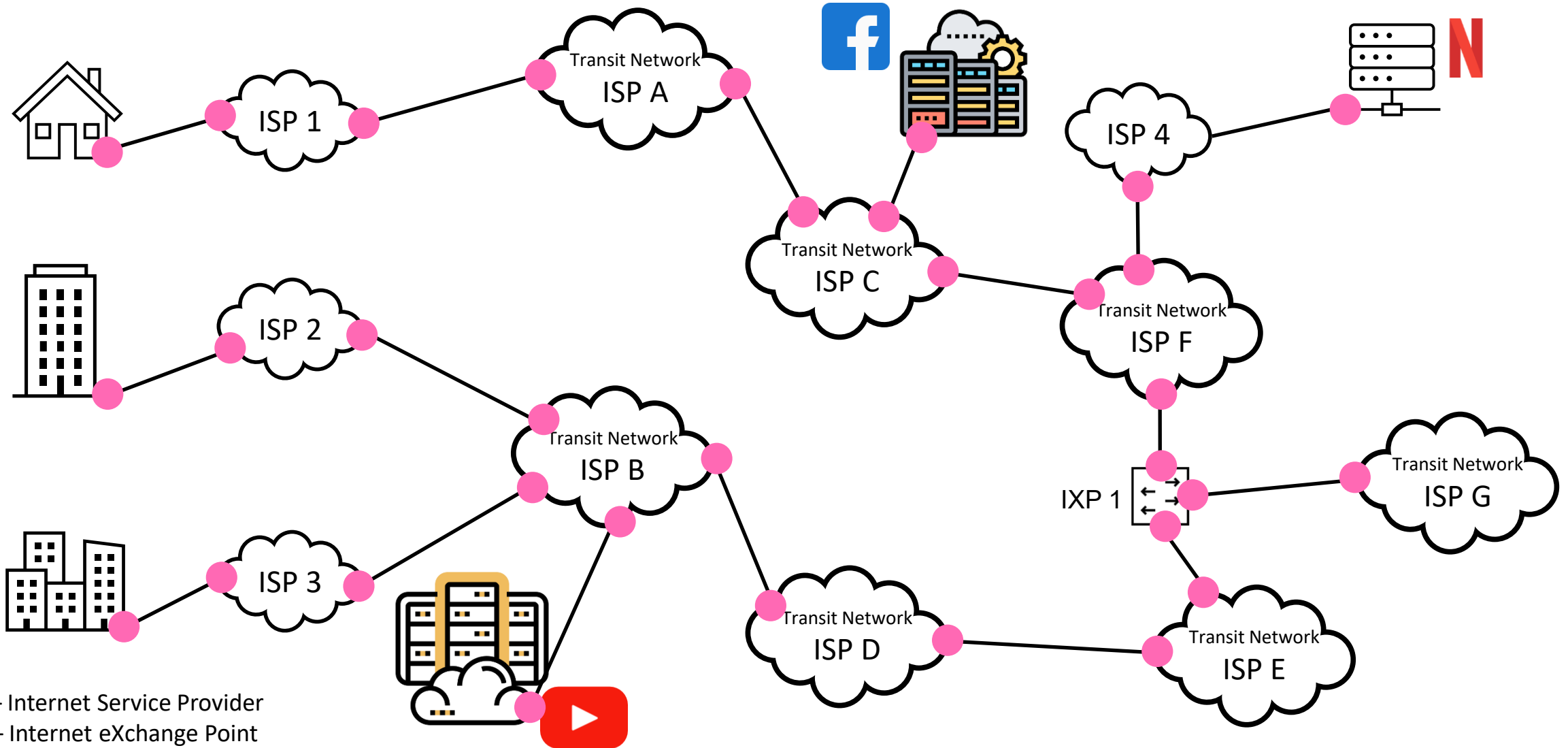
All-Photonics Network (APN)

For Innovative Optical and Wireless Network (IOWN)

#3G4G5G

X @3g4gUK

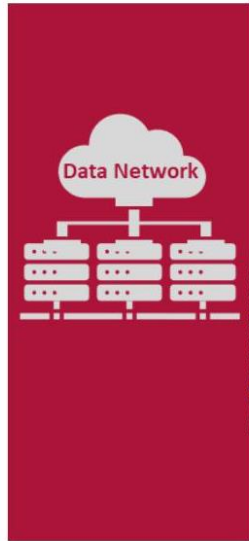
Basic Internet Layout





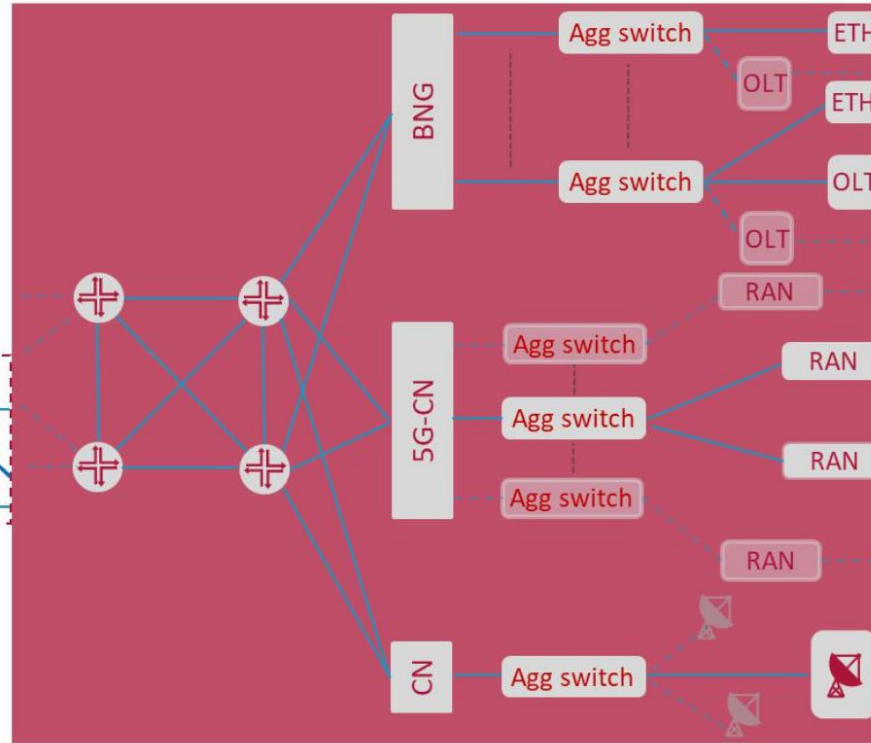
Data networks

Provides content, data and internet services



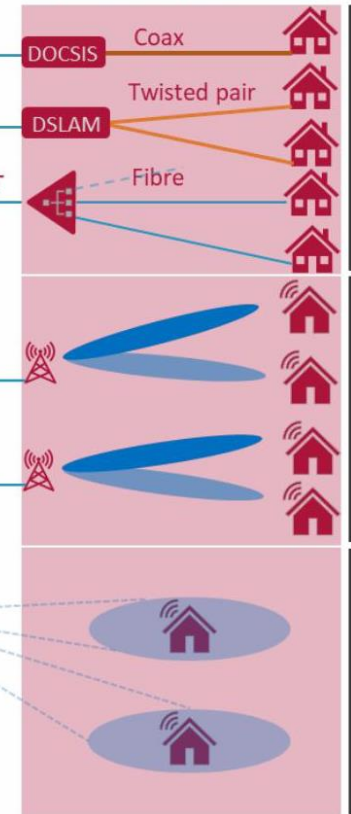
Core, aggregation and distribution networks

Provides a fabric to transport (longhaul, backhaul, midhaul and fronthaul) internet services between Data and Access Networks



Fixed access networks

Provides connectivity for the end-users to access internet services



- BNG: Broadband Network Gateway
- OLT: Optical Line Termination
- ETH: Ethernet Switch
- DOCSIS: Data Over Cable Service Interface Specifications
- DSLAM: Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexing
- RAN: Radio Access Network
- CN: Core Network
- 5G-CN: 5G Core Network



Router



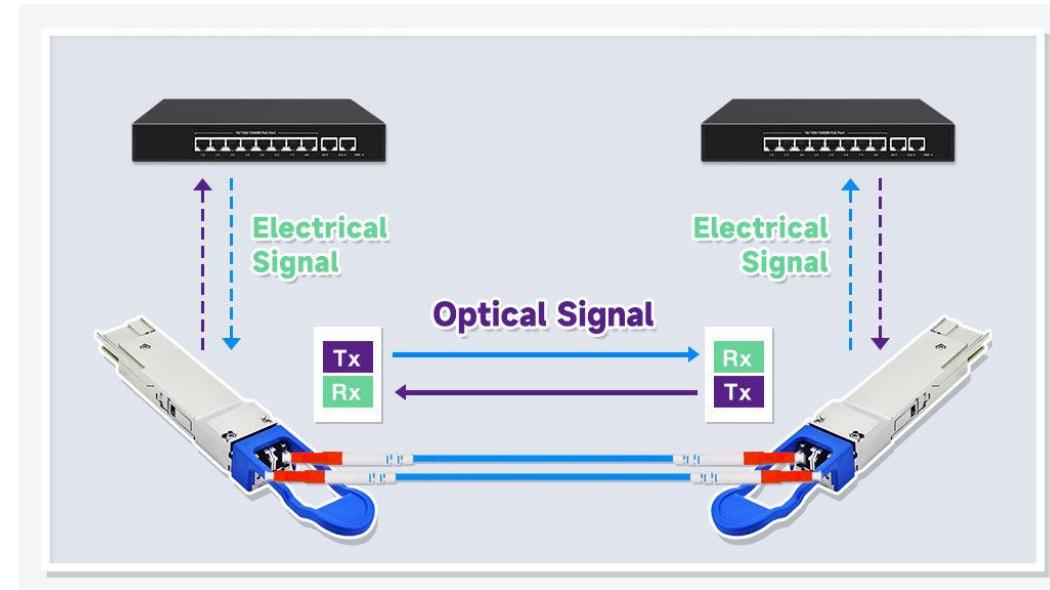
Passive splitter

Note: Networks in reality are much more complex. The extent of Fixed Broadband Access depends on the underlying infrastructure, full fibre is far less distant dependent than copper systems.

Source: Ofcom

Optical-Electrical-Optical (O-E-O) Conversion

- This conversion from Optical to Electrical and Electrical to Optical gives rise to three main issues:
 - There is increase in latency during the process of conversion
 - There is wastage of power during the conversion process
 - Fibre has very high data transfer capacity, but Ethernet doesn't. The process of O-E-O places a limitation on how much data can be moved around by the network.
- These were the main reasons for creating an All-Photonic Network (APN)



Picture Source: [VCELINK](#)

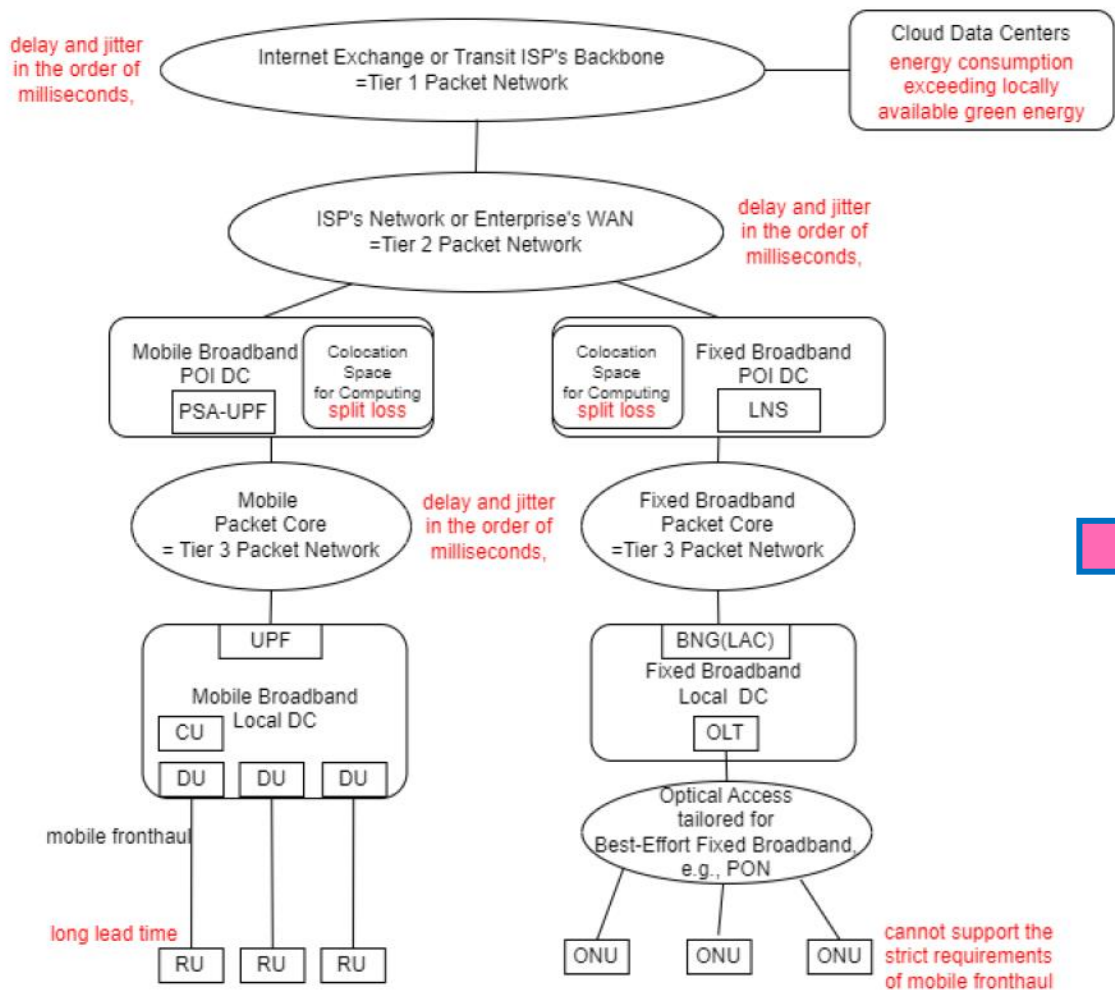


Figure 3. Today's Infrastructure

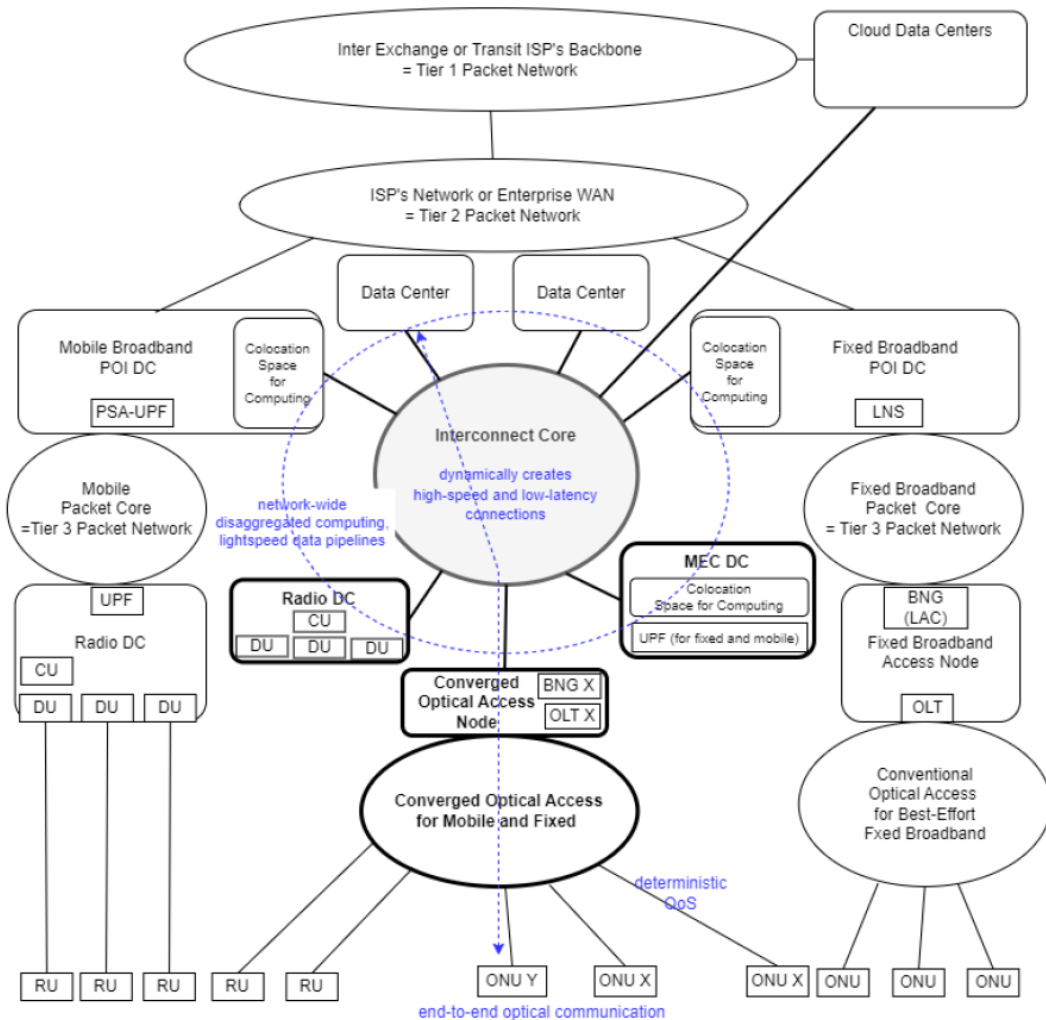
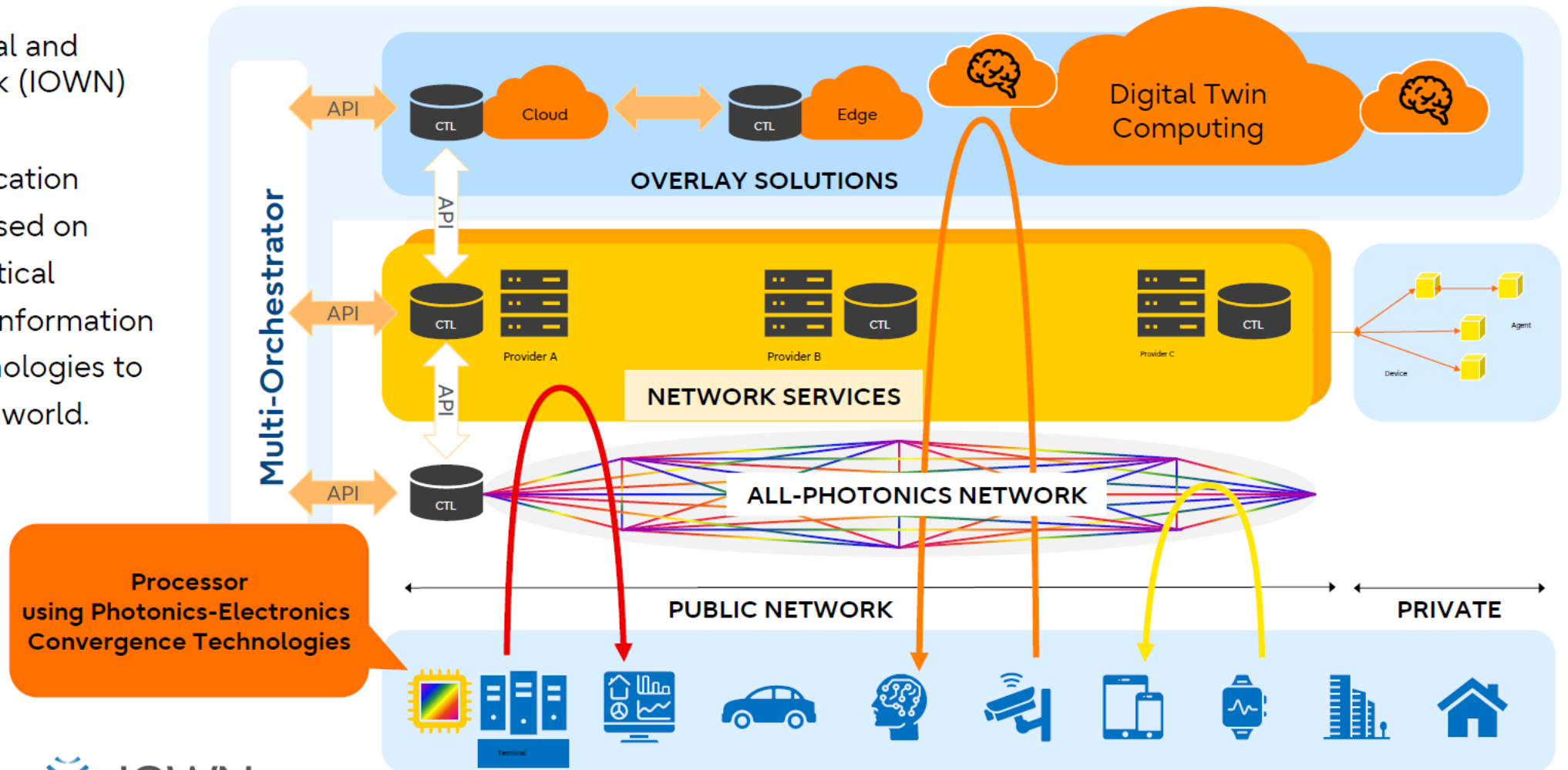


Figure 4. Evolved Infrastructure

What's IOWN?

Innovative Optical and Wireless Network (IOWN)

Future communication infrastructure based on leading-edge optical technology and information processing technologies to realize a smarter world.



Forum Activities

IOWN Global Forum will work on both technology components and use cases for enabling a smarter world



Use cases and applications

(IOWN Global Forum vision, motivating use cases, potential business impact estimations, technology requirements)



Smart Energy



Smart Cities



Smart Mobility



Smart Finance



Smart Entertainment

More Use Cases and Applications

Technical solutions

(reference architectures, protocols, interfaces, specifications)



Networking
Optical & Wireless



Distributed
Computing



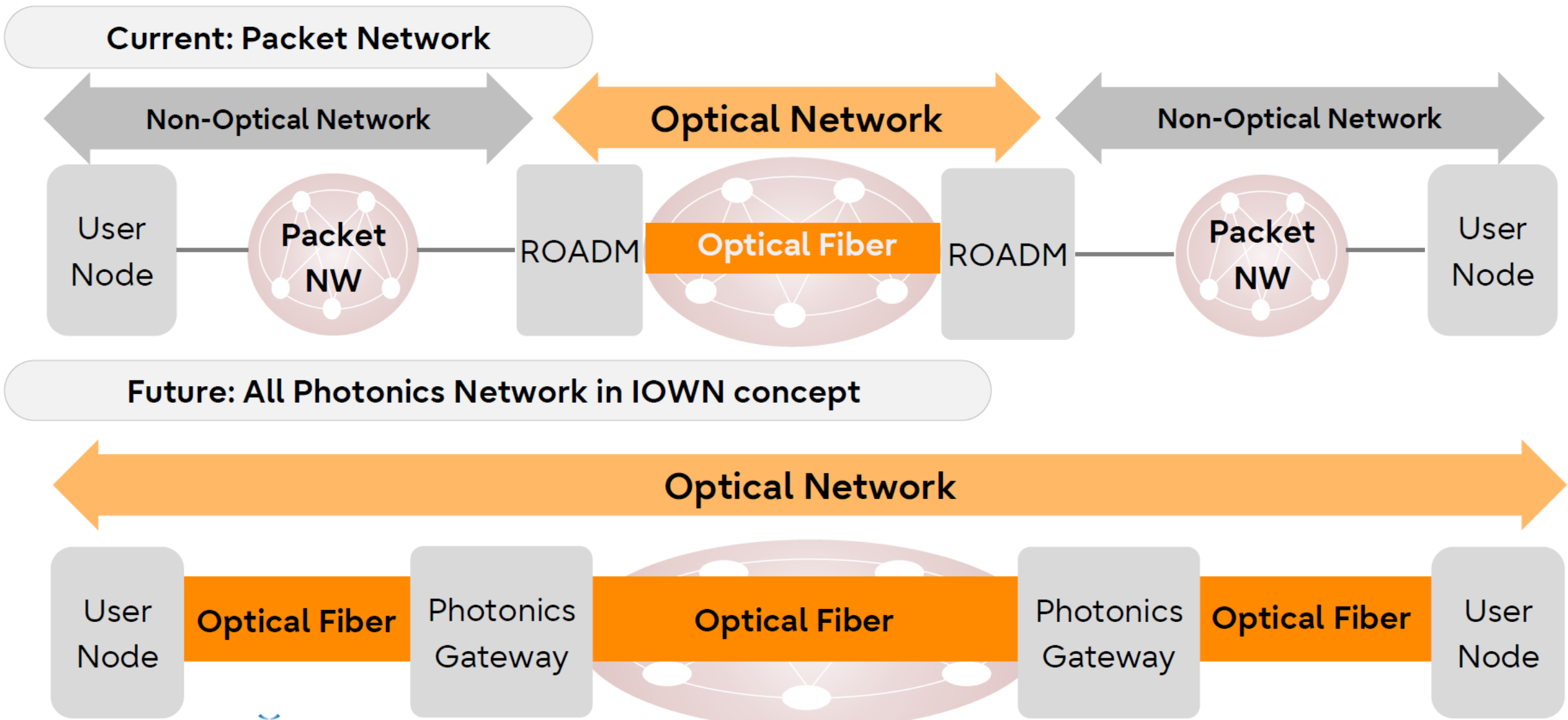
Photonics &
Optoelectronics



Devices,
Interfaces
& Terminals

More Technologies

Future Image of All Photonic Network in IOWN concept



NTT's Innovative Optical and Wireless Network concept



Target performance of All-Photonics Network(APN)

Power efficiency
100 times higher

Transmission capacity
125 times higher

End-to-end delay
1/200



Key technology : **Photonics-Electronics Convergence(PEC) technology**

PEC
devices



Prospective Use Cases leveraging IOWN

Cyber Physical Systems

Beyond Human Cognition, Prediction, Automation



Area Management

City wide surveillance
City wide autonomy



Mobility Management

Energy Aware Navigation



Industry Management

Remote Manufacturing
Inspection Automation



Health Management

Disaster outbreak prevention



Smart Grid Management

Renewable energy
Supply-demand control

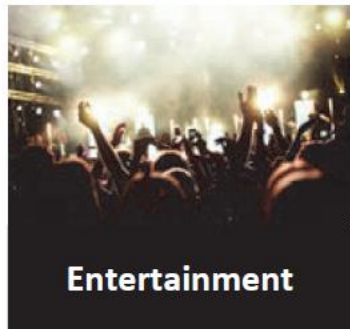


NW Infrastructure Management

Maintenance automation
"Fiber-Sensing"

AI Integrated Communications

Human-Centric Application enhancing remote Communication & Operation



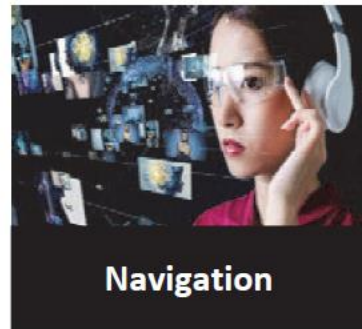
Entertainment

Immersive Live Music
Immersive Live Sport
Cloud Gaming



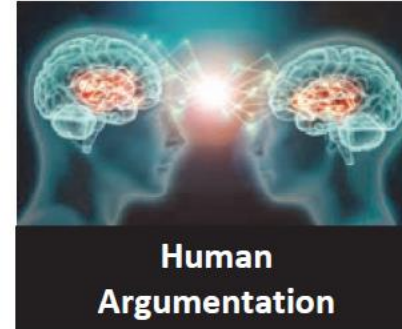
Remote Learning

Professional Training



Navigation

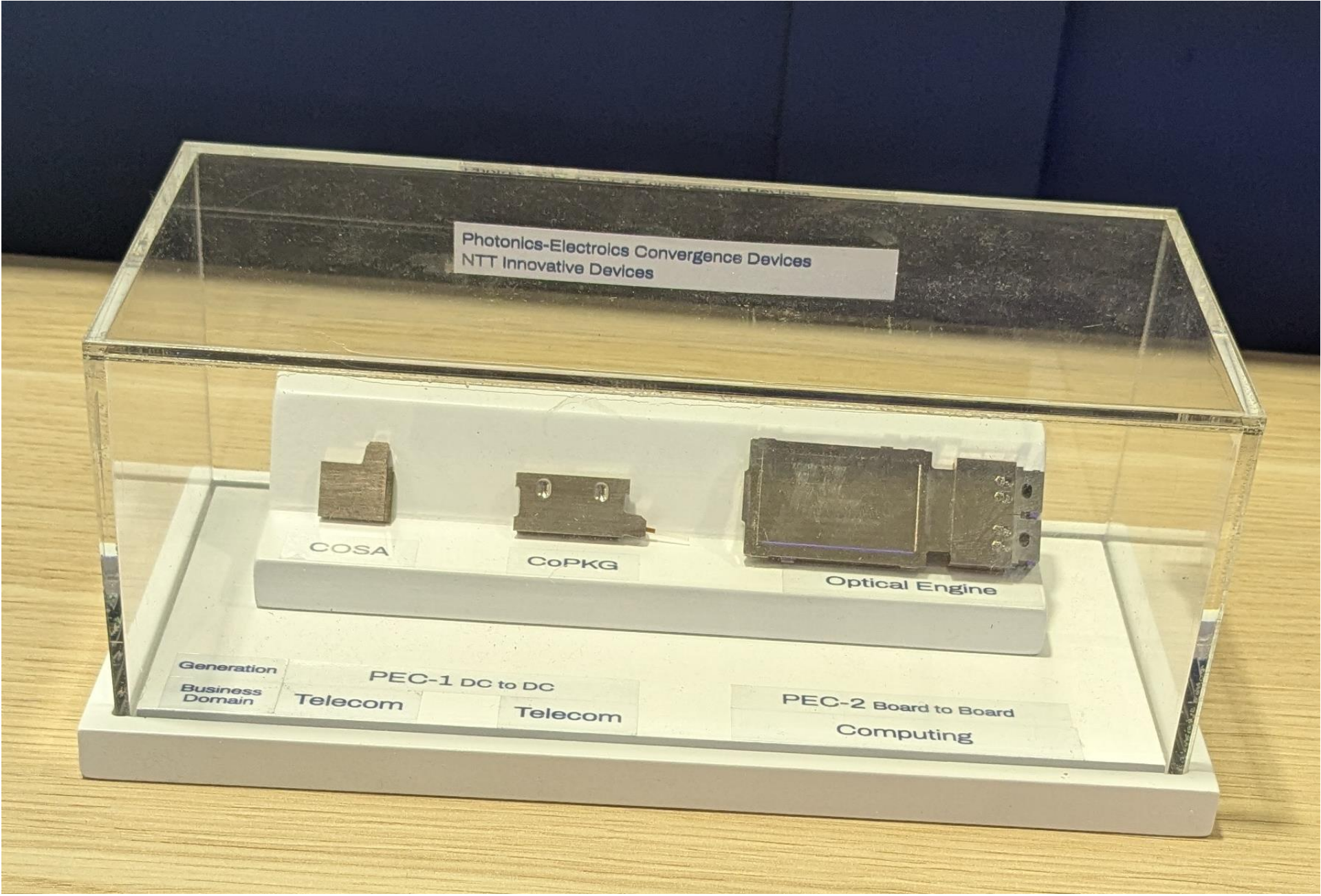
Immersive XR



Human Argumentation

Enhancing smooth communication





Photonics-Electronics Convergence Devices
NTT Innovative Devices

COSA

CoPKG

Optical Engine

Generation
Business
Domain

PEC-1 DC to DC
Telecom

Telecom

PEC-2 Board to Board
Computing

Open All-Photonic Network Functional Architecture

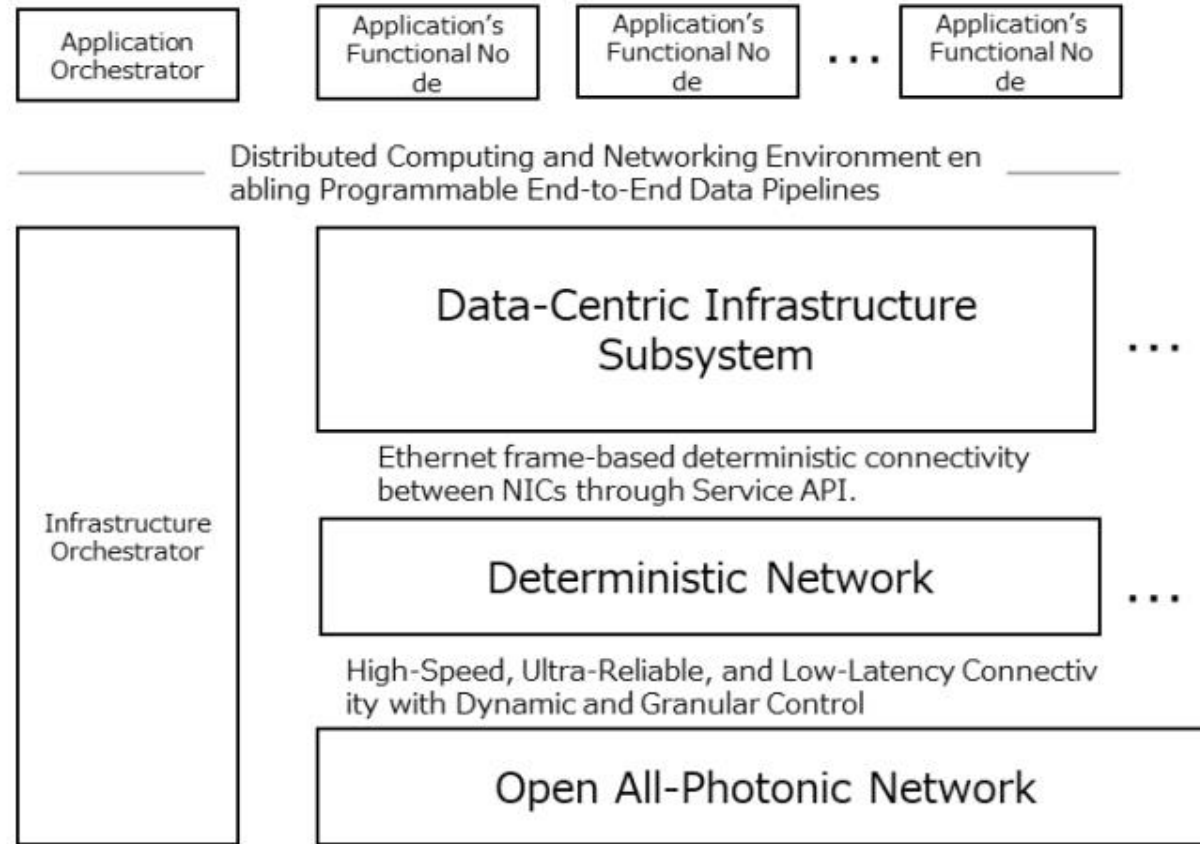


Figure 1-1 IOWN Global Forum Overall Architecture

References & Further Reading

- Omdia white paper: The All-Photonics Network Enables the Next-Generation Digital Economy, April 2025 ([link](#))
- IOWN GF: Open All-Photonic Network Functional Architecture, June 2025 ([link](#))
- NTT R&D: What is the All-Photonics Network? ([link](#))
- Techzine: NTT demonstrates world's first IOWN All-Photonics Network between Japan and Taiwan, May 2025 ([link](#))
- NTT: Successful demonstration of long-distance data center connections in the United Kingdom and the United States, April 2024 ([link](#))
- IOWN GF Reference Document: Network Digital Twin Use Case, July 2024 ([link](#))
- NTT PR: Successful Demonstration of Basic Technology Enabling On-Demand, Timely APN Connections from Any Location in IOWN APN, April 2025 ([link](#))
- IOWN GF white paper: Innovative Optical And Wireless Network Global Forum Vision 2030 And Technical Directions, Feb. 2025 ([link](#))
- NTT Docomo Presentation: IOWN Global Forum overview ([link](#))

Thank You

To learn more, visit:

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3G4G Blog – <https://blog.3g4g.co.uk/>

Telecoms Infrastructure Blog – <https://www.telecomsinfrastructure.com/>

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